



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22311-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/815,318

03/22/2001

Stanley Philip Cason

END9 2000 0166 US1

4660

44755

7590

11/17/2006

SHELLEY M. BECKSTRAND
PATENT ATTORNEY
61 GLENMONT ROAD
WOODLAWN, VA 24381

EXAMINER

TRUONG, LAN DAI T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/815,318	Applicant(s) CASON ET AL.	
	Examiner Lan-Dai Thi Truong	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/30/2006 has been entered.

2. This action is response to communications: application, filed on 03/22/2001; amendment filed 08/30/2006. Claims 1-15 are pending;

3. The applicant's arguments file on 08/30/2006 have been fully considered but they are moot in view with new ground for rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112^{1st}

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-2, 8, 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The disclosure lacks clear written description in a description on how to obtain or authenticate a user to access enterprise service(s). Based on the limitation "...each

Art Unit: 2152

company group of a plurality of distinct company groups including one or more related companies which use the same accounting codes and procedures, with accounting codes and procedures that vary between company groups..." It is unclear how to access the services based on the relationship of the accounting code, related companies and a plurality of procedures.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112^{2nd}

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-2, 8, 13-15 recite the limitation "the same accounting codes". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim

Claims 1-2, 8, 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-2, 8, 13-15 are vague and indefinite because it is unclear of the limitation "...each company group of a plurality of distinct company groups including one or more related companies which use the same accounting codes and procedures, with accounting codes and procedures that vary between company groups..." and the relationships among accounting codes, a related companies/various company groups and a plurality of procedures in order to access the enterprise services

Claim rejections-35 USC § 103

Art Unit: 2152

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 8-10, 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse et al. (U.S. 2003/0074580) in view of Fey et al. (U.S. 2003/0187688)

Regarding to claim 1:

Knouse discloses the invention substantially as claimed, including a method, which can be implemented in a computer hardware or software code for a user authorized by a customer company to access services provided by an enterprise, comprising:

Preparing for each new said user a profile entry including a user identifier and a company group identifier: Knouse discloses an access management system includes access manager allow administrator accesses to manage multiple resources across an enterprise; the management system establishes and maintains identity profiles, each profile includes “first name, last name” which is equivalent to “user identifier” and “identification of facility ” which is equivalent to “company group identifier”: ([0096])

Responsive to access by said authorized user, obtaining profile entry for said authorized user: Knouse also discloses the access management system makes a request for authorization ([0099])

However Knouse does not explicitly discloses each company group of a plurality of distinct company groups including one or more related companies with use the same accounting

Art Unit: 2152

codes and procedures, with accounting codes and procedures that vary between company group; Responsive to user selection of a said location description, populating to said profile entry the corresponding company code and location code:

In analogous art, Fey discloses record tables contain associations/relationships between “GroupEvenIDs” which is equivalent to “company groups,” “acct numbers” which is equivalent to “accounting codes” and “location IDs” which is equivalent to “location indicia”: (table 13)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Fey’s ideas of interoperating information from plurality of record tables with Knouse’s system in order to improve data management system more efficiency in order to provide services for wide range customers, see (abstract, lines 1-6)

Regarding to claims 8-10, 13, 15:

Those claims are rejected under rationale of claim 1

Claims 2-3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse-Fey in view of Hahn-Carlson (U.S. 6704612) further in view of Liu et al. (U.S. 6,839,680)

Regarding to claim 2:

Knouse-Fey discloses a method as discuss in claim 1, which further includes receiving a list of authorized employee

In analogous art, Hahn-Carlson discloses receiving list of authorized users

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Hahn-Carlson’s ideas of using list of authorized users for

Art Unit: 2152

providing services only for those authorized users purpose with Knouse-Fey's system in order to provide more efficient and secure management system, see (Hahn-Carlson: abstract, lines 1-6)

However, Knouse-Fey- Hahn-Carlson does not explicitly disclose merging said files into a company group file of authorized users

In analogous art, Liu discloses method for merging profile: (column 22, lines 60-65)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Liu's ideas of merging profiles with Knouse-Fey- Hahn-Carlson's system in order to provide larger management system, see (Liu: abstract)

Regarding to claims 14 and 3:

Those claims are rejected under rationale of claim 2

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu in view of Bennett et al. (U.S. 2002/0161606)

Regarding to claim 4

Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 2, but does not explicitly teach transmitting merged data

In analogous art, Bennett discloses method for transmitting merged data to the central system: ([0033])

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Bennett's ideas of merging data and sending merged data to central system with Knouse-Fey- Hahn-Carlson-liu's system in order to provide larger management system, see (Bennett: abstract)

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett in view of Arledge et al. (U.S. 6,535,294)

Regarding to claim 5:

Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 4, but does not explicitly teach displaying said requester intelligible location descriptions associated with said company group in a selection list to said requester when said accounting indicia is not included said user profile for said requester

Arledge disclosed a system for preparing customized printed products over a communication network. Arledge taught that a new user is requested to identify “location of state and country” which is equivalent to “locations” of “the particular franchised retail store” which is equivalent to “a company belongs to company group”, and the information about locations of company group is recorded into customer data as a part of new user’s profile. Arledge disclosed that the new end-user uses “location popup list” for displaying and selecting the information to identify the location of state and country of particular franchised retail store, so this process is share functionality with “responsive to said profile entry not including company code and location indicia, display to said user description of locations for said company group” see (Arledge: column 13, lines 54-67; column 14, lines1-44).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Arledge’s ideas of displaying a popup list of location of state and country of particular franchised retail store with Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett’s system in order to create new user profile which contain information about locations and franchised retail store as default, see (Arledge: column 13, lines 54-67; column 14, lines1-44)

Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse-Fey in view of Arledge et al. (U.S. 6,535,294)

Regarding to claim 11:

Knouse-Fey discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 10, but does not explicitly teach displaying said requester intelligible location descriptions associated with said company group in a selection list to said requester when said accounting indicia is not included said user profile for said requester

Arledge disclosed a system for preparing customized printed products over a communication network. Arledge taught that a new user is requested to identify "location of state and country" which is equivalent to "locations" of "the particular franchised retail store" which is equivalent to "a company belongs to company group", and the information about locations of company group is recorded into customer data as a part of new user's profile. Arledge disclosed that the new end-user uses "location popup list" for displaying and selecting the information to identify the location of state and country of particular franchised retail store, so this process is share functionality with "responsive to said profile entry not including company code and location indicia, display to said user description of locations for said company group" see (Arledge: column 13, lines 54-67; column 14, lines1-44).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Arledge's ideas of displaying a popup list of location of state and country of particular franchised retail store with Knouse-Fey's system in order to create new

Art Unit: 2152

user profile which contain information about locations and franchised retail store as default, see (Arledge: column 13, lines 54-67; column 14, lines 1-44)

Regarding to claim 12:

Said description of said accounting indicia being text comprehensible to said user

Although Arledge does not explicitly disclose that the location of the state and country of the particular franchised being text comprehensible to use; however, this feature is deemed to be inherent to the Arledge system as (column 13, lines 64-67; column 14, lines 1-15), new user select location of state and country for particular franchised retail store from popup list. The Arledge system would be inoperative if location of state and country for particular franchised retail store from popup list is not text comprehensible to user.

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Arledge's ideas of displaying a popup list of location of state and country of particular franchised retail store with Knouse-Fey's system in order to create new user profile which contain information about locations and franchised retail store as default, see (Arledge: column 13, lines 54-67; column 14, lines 1-44)

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as un-patentable over Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge in view of Schweitzer et al (U.S 6,418,467)

Regarding to claim 6:

Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 5, but does not explicitly teach transmitting through a firewall

However Schweitzer disclosed methods of record merging and sending them through firewall, see (Schweitzer: column 13, lines 66-67; column 14, lines 14-20)

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Schweitzer's ideas of sending merging file through firewall with se-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge's system in order to improve secure level for communication system, see (Schweitzer: column 13, lines 66-67)

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being un-patentable over Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge- Schweitzer in view of Resnick et al. (U.S 6,185,545)

Regarding to claim 7:

Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge- Schweitzer discloses the invention substantially as disclosed in claim 6, but does not explicitly teach secure network being a frame relay network

However Resnick disclose the connection between the payment system and customer can be a Frame Relay network or more some other secure link, see (Resnick: column 7, lines 58-61).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to Resnick's ideas of using Frame Relay network with Knouse-Fey-Hahn-Carlson-Liu-Bennett-Arledge- Schweitzer's system in order to improve secure for transmitting network, see (Resnick: column 7, lines 58-61)

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to "System and method for generating a company group use profile": 5,331,546; 20020053975; 6,349,289

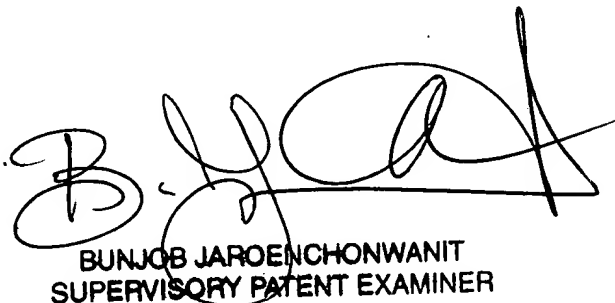
Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lan-Dai Thi Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-7959. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from 8:30am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob A. Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

11/10/2006



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER